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2017-292 wks

12/5/2017

The Honorable Joceyln G. Boyd  
 Chief Clerk and Administrator  
 Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100  
 Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: An Objection to: Application of Carolina Water Service, Inc for Adjustment of rates and charges.

Dear Ms Boyd:

I received a letter from Carolina Water Service, Inc dated November 20, 2017. It appears that Carolina Water Service (CWS) is requesting permission to increase water rates for residents of the Washington Heights Community.

There is a number of problems/ issues I have with this water company asking to increase our water rates:

- Problem 1: Any improvements done the last 2 ½ years have not benefited my community. This 11 million dollars spent must have improved other communities, not mine. This is monies this company should have invested over a 30 year period to provide us with decent, quality drinking water. This is part of the cost of being in the water-providing business. Seeking to recover investments in infrastructure is not a guarantee. I am not against companies making profits; but increasing our rates for this company is robbery because of their past history.
- Problem 2: Water for my community comes from a private well source. I am not understanding what cost of purchased water means for this company. Are they purchasing water from the City of Columbia? Why purchase water from them....just sell them the company. Also, exactly how does this interconnection work? Does this mean we are now getting City of Columbia water, not private well water, or is it a combination of the 2 systems and CWS is the middle-man to just collect the money??
- Problem 3: The other reasons listed in this letter for increasing rates are things this company should have been doing all the time.....DHEC rules and regulations are not new, improved operating performance of their facilities.....a continous process, not new.
- Problem 4: Appears this company can not afford to provide water service any longer to us. They need to sell the company to the City.

I am requesting that the Public Service Commission do NOT allow this company to increase our water rates. If any thing, this company should reimburse each resident of this community for the 30 plus years for the many, many inconveniences and problems they have caused us to endure.

Sincerely,

*Alberta M. Coit*

Alberta M. Coit

Resident of the Washington Heights Community

Cc: Rick Durham, President of Carolina Water Service

*Mary Sturgill WLTX 19*